

[7 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

and MNCs would have any adverse impact on the security and safety of the country; and

(e) if so, the further reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three recognised Federations and their affiliated Trade Unions of Defence Civilian Employees of Ordnance Factories have expressed their reservation on this. The three recognised Federations, viz., All India Defence Employees Federation, Indian National Defence Workers' Federation and Bhartiya Partiraksha Mazdoor Sangh formed a Joint Action Committee and proposed to go on strike on 23 and 24 July 2001 in protest of the Government decision.

(c) The Government have entered into a dialogue with the representatives of the Federations to allay their apprehensions from staff and security angle. The Joint Action Committee have since decided to postpone their strike.

(d) and (e) No. Sir. The opening up of defence industry to private sector participation is subject to both licensing and security requirements through an institutional mechanism to regulate licensing, manufacture and sale of defence equipment.

Blocking of imports from China

1721. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether China had objected to Government's blocking of imports from China and has taken strong exception to labelling it as a "non-market economy"

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the issues involved have been resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Notification No. 28/2001 -NT-Customs dated 31.05.2001 has been issued by the Department of Revenue to amend the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-

dumping Duty on Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995, so as to introduce a criteria for determining "non-market economy" countries for the purposes of anti-dumping investigations. The "non-market economy" countries notified includes China. However, if during an anti-dumping investigation sufficient evidence is shown in writing that market economy conditions prevail for one or more Chinese firms subject to anti-dumping investigation, then such firms would be, for the purposes of determining normal value, treated similarly as those from market economy countries. No objection has been received from China after the Notification No. 28/ 2001-NT-Customs dated 31.05.2001 labelling it as a "non-market economy".

Exports to China

1722. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the value of Indian exports to China during the year 2000;
- (b) the value of the same during 1999; and
- (c) the details of steps taken to further boost Indian exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The value of Indian exports to China during 2000-2001 was of the order of US\$ 829.24 million.

(b) The value of Indian exports to China during 1999-2000 was US \$ 538.75 million.

(c) The Government of India works towards the improvement and expansion of exports to China. The various steps taken in this direction include exchange of delegations, holding of JBC meetings, exchange of commercial information, participation in fairs and exhibitions, etc.

Exports to European Union

1723. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the European Union Countries propose to open up custom free access to exports from the 48 least developed countries;
- (b) if so, the details of India's exports to these countries during the last two years; and